GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4982
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2008
SUBMISSION OF FAKE DOCUMENTS IN US CONSULATE CHENNAI FOR VISA
Botcha Lakshmi Smt. Jhansi

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 50 per cent of the documents submitted in support of the visa applications at U.S. consulate in Chennai are fake;

(b) if so, whether most of the fraudulent documents originate from Hyderabad based consultancies and agents;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether several visa agents wanted in cases booked by the U.S. consulate in Chennai are from Hyderabad; and

(e) if so, the deterrent action the Ministry is contemplating against such visa agents?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS(DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) to (e): The Government of Tamil Nadu has intimated that the office of the United States (US) Consulate General, Chennai has given a report to the Commissioner of Police, Chennai on 11.3.2008 alleging that one Christal Jayaraj Palies has committed fraud by assisting at least three persons in applying illegally for US visas and attempting to smuggle one Sasikumar Kaniyan of Kerala into US for illegal purpose. After preliminary enquiries, a case has been registered by Chennai Police and detailed investigation has been taken up. The US Consulate has furnished only the names of the applicants who had applied for visas and the Consulate has been requested to furnish copies of the visa applications for further probe. The said Christal Jayaraj Palies is absconding and a special Police team has been formed to trace him.The extent of involvement of Hyderabad based visa agents in the case is not known at this stage.